



**Churches
Together in
Cumbria
October
2020**

The love of Christ constrains us. - 2 Corinthians Ch 5 v14

This month sees the departure of David Richardson from the role of Vice President to Churches Together in Cumbria.

Since the departure of Helen Boothroyd from the role of Ecumenical Officer and the loss of this post to CTiC David has taken on a substantial oversight and administrative burden on our behalf. He has not only maintained what was there but has initiated two substantial projects in the recently concluded Dementia Awareness Project and the recently begun Anna Chaplaincy.

Since my first engagement with David on behalf of the Church Leaders' group, we have never discussed theology, ecclesiology or our preferred worship styles, we have engaged together in the work of Christ in and through his people in the County. Whilst there is a right place time and necessity to engage on such issues this has not been necessary nor arguably would it have been productive in our context as there has been an element of constraint on our work together with the necessary agendas before us. This constraint has however been most productive in many areas, as described above and in the formation of the new CTiC CIO status.

David has been a force to be reckoned with and has achieved so much, his skills are many, but it is his singular love for Christ and all Gods people which has shone through his many achievements

David has our best wishes and prayers for God's blessing and leaves us with an example to follow.

The love of Christ constrains us, we are compelled, bound to act out of common love for Christ and all people, not good ideas agendas or display of power. These are times of constraint as we enter into a new phase of restrictions to prevent the spread of the Coronavirus. I wonder, perhaps the constraints we are experiencing are teaching us to be more simple, stripped back in being God's people, we cannot do the things we used to. Yet we are still called in and to our various places and walks of life to witness and worship. Stripping back, pruning is not pleasant but offers the chance and hope for continued life and growth in the future. Such work of the Spirit may well apply to our own Churches Together structures local, county and nationwide to which we must be open in these times.

Andrew Dodd

President CTiC

The Bereavement Journey, Cumbria.

The first Bereavement Journey Cumbria course started in September, delivered via Zoom. 17 guests are attending this first course, and it is being well received.

The Bereavement Journey was written and developed by Holy Trinity Brompton 25 years ago, and is now available as online course:

www.thebereavementjourney.org

The course comprises of five two hour sessions with discussion around two talks. There is an optional sixth session which deals with questions on faith.

The second Bereavement Journey Cumbria course starts on Thursday 5th November and runs for six consecutive weeks at 7.30pm. It's beginning to fill, so please get in touch soon if you would like a place.

Shelagh Goldie

shelagh.goldie@gmail.com

www.churchestogethercumbria.co.uk



Modern Slavery Online Training

Training in Modern Slavery awareness via two Zoom sessions. Suitable for everybody and vital for all.

Monday 16th November 4-6pm and Monday 23rd November 4-6pm

For more info and to book please contact Shelagh Goldie

shelagh.goldie@gmail.com

**MODERN
SLAVERY**



NOURISHING THE SOUL 2021

KNOWING GOD is the greatest adventure we can embark on. It's a journey that we make with God through the ups and downs and, indeed, all the events and encounters of life.

It's a journey which can be enriched as it is shared with others.

If you want to:

Discover more about your Christian spiritual heritage

Learn about, and experience, different ways of praying

Find new resources to feed and enrich your soul

Meet with others on a similar journey of discovery

Think about becoming a spiritual director...

Then this course is for you!

The course is run by the **Cumbria Ecumenical Spirituality Group**, and typically involves 10 sessions spread throughout the year. On this occasion it will be delivered on zoom, so the delivery is being adapted.

For further details please contact kath.dodd@btinternet.com



Child Poverty Forum West Cumbria

How Can We Build a Therapeutic Community around Children Experiencing Poverty?

Thursday 15th October 2pm-4:30pm

Microsoft Teams Webinar

Invitation to Participate

Following publication of West Cumbria Child Poverty Forum's report [Child Poverty: The impact of COVID-19 on families in West Cumbria A Rapid Response Paper](#) in May, we will be holding a follow-up webinar which aims to:

- Build an informed understanding of the needs of West Cumbrian families following the Covid-19 crisis.
- Celebrate the responses of health, education and housing sectors in supporting families experiencing poverty. These may be families who have been experiencing hardship before Covid-19 or may be facing these challenges for the first time.
- Identify key actions that need to be taken to mitigate the impact of the Covid-19 crisis and promote resilience and inclusion.
- Critically discuss the viability of building a therapeutic community in the anti-poverty response to Covid-19.

The event will be hosted through Microsoft Teams and will be recorded. As with previous events, this will result in the publication of a report, presenting the key findings and highlighting key policy and practice recommendations.

If you would like to attend, please contact Suzanne Wilson (swilson21@uclan.ac.uk). We look forward to hearing from you; if you have any questions please don't hesitate to ask.

Spiritual Direction

- Finding a Still Point in the Storm -

In today's climate of uncertainty, lockdowns, environmental challenges and daily stresses, do you ponder your relationship with God, consider your own unique call in life, struggle with prayer? With many activities on hold, and darker days upon us, you may be spending more time alone with your thoughts. Why not use this time to focus on your prayer life, your relationship with God and meet with a spiritual director?

Cumbria Ecumenical Spirituality Group offer Spiritual Direction under Christian auspices to people of faith (and those with none) at any stage in life.

"Christian spirituality is about knowing life as a prayer, a relationship with God through Jesus and in the love of his spirit. A relationship which opens our lives to a deeper and more compassionate relationship with each other, it is the greatest part of who we are and how we live" Cameron Butland

Spiritual Direction is an interpersonal relationship in which one person helps another to reflect on their experiences in the light of the Gospel and Christian wisdom. Through this process, individuals are led and encouraged to discover their unique call in life. A

spiritual director is one who willingly walks this faith journey with another. They listen, encourage, challenge and pray with the individual who freely shares the movements of the spirit in their life.

Spiritual directors offer a sacred gift by being a caring companion and will foster a contemplative presence. If spiritual direction is done well, you will receive the support you need to pay attention to, and respond to God who is already present and active your life.

Directees meet with a director at an agreed place – maybe an outside venue, or going for a walk. In the current climate, meetings can also take place online eg via zoom. Meetings usually last about an hour and are scheduled approximately bi-monthly, although this is completely flexible and to be agreed between director and directee.

If you would like to know more about spiritual direction, or ask for a spiritual director for yourself, please contact:

Ruth Lee ruthlee377@btinternet.com **01768 898604**

"It is wonderful to have somebody who is there just for me and the spiritual aspects in my life. I always look forward to our sessions, and am amazed how much I get out of them. During the time I have been seeing my director, my relationship with God has developed to a new and deeper level, and the trust I have that God knows and guides me is immensely comforting." Directee

"Some are uncomfortable with the thought of 'direction'. Personally I prefer the phrase "soul friend" whose role is first and foremost one of listening. In fact, double listening – to the other and to God. In my experience, when people are attentively listened to, they are well able to 'work out their own salvation', as the Holy Spirit gently leads them; but just sometimes the director can interpolate what may be a word of the Lord. A verse of Scripture, a picture, an idea. But, second to listening, I think the most important thing is asking good questions!" Director (soul friend)



QUIET DAY FOR WOMEN

Saturday, 17 October 2020

10.30am – 3.00pm

Via zoom



TAKING NOTICE

'Surely the Lord is in this place,
and I was not aware of it'

This is a day for prayer, reflection, inspiration and mutual support, and
will be led by Kath Dodd.

There is no fixed charge, but a donation is invited.

For more information, or to book a place, please contact Kath Dodd on
015394 36451 or kath.dodd@btinternet.com



Faith in the Second Half

online seminars

Thursday 15th October 2020

In this post-Covid world it has become more challenging for the older person to flourish in their Christian life and service. In response to this and as a taster for next year's Faith in the Second Half conference, Faith in Later Life and Keswick Ministries are partnering to run two free online events.



Enabling those in later life to flourish **(11am – 12.15pm)**

Aimed at church leaders and those involved in leading ministry with older people. Topics will include the theology of old age, empowering the ministry of the older person and providing pastoral support. There will be time for Q&A.

Who's it with? Dr. Garry Williams, Carl Knightly & Debs Fidler.

Flourishing in later life (2pm – 3pm)

Aimed at the older person wanting to understand that God still has a plan for them and how they can be involved in ministering to others and serving God.

There will be time for Q&A.

Who's it with? Revd. Ian Knox, Carl Knightly and Pippa Cramer.

To find out more go to our website at:

keswickministries.org/event/fish-online-events

Or call us on **017687 80075**

Alternatively you can email **events@keswickministries.org**

We look forward to seeing you!

ANTI SLAVERY DAY EVENTS



ANTI-SLAVERY DAY

18TH OCTOBER 2020

This Anti-Slavery Day we are taking our events on-line, so why not take part to:

- Boost your knowledge
- Raise your awareness
- Join the fight against modern slavery in your community

You are invited to our free photo exhibition and interactive webinars over the week of the 18th October to find out more about how you can contribute to ending modern slavery.

SUNDAY 18TH OCTOBER - SATURDAY 24TH OCTOBER **UNMASKED**

A stunning photographic collaboration between Medaille Trust Clients
and Photographer Fiona Yaron-Field

<https://artspaces.kunstmatrix.com/en/exhibitions?title=&label=Medaille+trust>

MONDAY 19TH OCTOBER **WHY WE EXIST**

The story of Medaille Trust told by CEO Garry Smith

TUESDAY 20TH OCTOBER **SPOT THE SIGNS OF MODERN SLAVERY**

with Director of Justice and Policing Partnerships Steve Hay

WEDNESDAY 21ST OCTOBER **MEDAILLE VIRTUAL OPEN DAY**

Meet some of our service managers and find out about life in our safe houses

THURSDAY 22ND OCTOBER **ASK THE EXPERTS**

Hear from our Panel of Experts and ask any questions you may have.

FRIDAY 23RD OCTOBER **HOW CAN YOU GET INVOLVED...**

...in the fight against modern slavery and make a difference in your community?



Calm us O Lord as You stilled the storm.

Still us O Lord, keep us from harm.

Let all the tumult within us cease.

Enfold us Lord, in Your peace.

Amen

Reminder

Please remember to keep looking at the CTiC events page which is regularly updated with all the events October we are notified about. Please send information before 15th for our newsletter: ebctic@outlook.com

Find out more about the work of CTiC in our overview paper, available on the website: https://www.churchestogethercumbria.co.uk/Groups/318434/About_Us.aspx

All the information in this newsletter is published in good faith and for general information purpose only. Churches Together in Cumbria does not make any guarantee about the completeness, reliability and accuracy of this information. Nor does inclusion herein imply our endorsement of events or organisations.

Charity Registration Number: 1147833

www.churchestogethercumbria.org.uk

Revd Andrew Dodd

CTiC President

e: andrew.dodd1@btinternet.com

CTiC newsletter

e: ebctic@outlook.com